

Get on your bike for Postcode Challenge

✖ The third Postcode Challenge will take place this Sunday on the north Edinburgh cycle paths. The challenge is a fun, free event for cyclists and walkers, a 'treasure hunt on wheels' (and foot), with the chance to explore around 27km of continuous off-road routes and to enter into the prize draw at the same time.

Dotted around the network will be ten stands, run by local organisations. Find your first one (you can start anywhere on the route) and they will give you a card. Get the card stamped at all ten locations (five if you are on foot) and bring it back to the event HQ at Fiveways Junction by 4pm to be entered into the free prize draw. As well as the main prizes, many of the stands may have freebies and presents to give away too and you'll be able to get your bike fixed and have cycling advice from Hart's Cyclery, Edinburgh Bicycle Co-op and The Bike Station stands.

The event is totally traffic free and great for all ages and everyone is welcome – you can take part on your own, as a family or as part of a team.

Look out for the following stalls on the route:

1. The Bike Station – for bike repairs with Dr Bike
2. Edinburgh & Lothians Greenspace Trust
3. The Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop – check out their gorgeous new building!
4. Pedal on Parliament
5. Spokes
6. Sustrans
7. Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre
8. Harts Cyclery – Bike repairs and advice

9. My Edinburgh (MYDG)

10. Edinburgh Bicycle Co-op – Bike repairs and advice

We can't tell you where each stand will be – but once you've found the first one, you're away. If in doubt, head to Fiveways Junction, where people will point you in the right direction.

And thank you to the following for donating prizes: Spokes, the Bike Station, Harts Cyclery Edinburgh Bicycle Co-op and Green Yonder Tours

This event is part of the Innertube project, funded thanks to players of People's Postcode Lottery and via the People's Postcode Trust.

Back to Back Bach Marathon to raise funds for Christian Aid



Music lovers in Edinburgh and beyond are being invited to enjoy a unique marathon experience of the works of Johann Sebastian Bach – in 15 hours of continuous performances to raise funds for Christian Aid.

Tickets are now on sale for the charity's first ever 'Bach to Bach Marathon', which will see professional and amateur musicians from across the country come together in St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Palmerston Place, from 9am until midnight

on Saturday 4 May 2013.

Organiser Alastair Guild, from the West End, had the inspiration for the event while playing Bach's Chorales with a friend, and has been overwhelmed by the response from musicians in Edinburgh and across Scotland.

Alastair said:- "Bach has something for everyone and this is expected to be a really unique event with around 30 different performances. We've had an incredible response and it's great that we'll hear so many interpretations of his music in the one day, in the wonderful space that is St Mary's Cathedral.

"I'm also excited that we're doing this for such a worthwhile cause. I regularly volunteer during Christian Aid Week at the Edinburgh book sale, and I want the Bach event to be dedicated to the important work Christian Aid carries out around the world."

Professional musicians, teachers, students and others who enjoy Bach's music will perform a variety of pieces on a wide range of instruments, with additional solo and choral performances. Big names at the event will include harpsichordist John Butt, who is musical director of Edinburgh's Dunedin Consort and a leading authority on Bach.

Music at the all-day concert will be interspersed with stories from the life and times of the great composer, and Christian Aid staff will be on hand to provide more information on the charity's work in the world's poorest and most vulnerable communities.

Kathy Galloway, Head of Christian Aid Scotland, said "The concept of a Bach Marathon is very original here in Scotland, and we think it's a really novel way to raise funds. Events like this one – which will take place right before Christian Aid Week 2013 – enable us to continue our work with partners around the world to eradicate poverty. We would like to thank the organisers and musicians for all the effort they have put

in so far, and we'd certainly encourage members of the public to come along and show their support."

Tickets cost £10 and allow entry to the event throughout the day. Light refreshments will also be on sale in the Cathedral, starting with coffee and croissants at 8.30am.

For more information, tickets, and a running order of performances go to www.christianaid.org.uk/bachtwobach

Photo Robert Ormerod

Introducing a New 17 Year Old Single Cask Edition: The Glenlivet Quercus

The Single Malt that Started it All, The Glenlivet, is proud to present a rare and collectible single cask whisky aged for 17 years in American white oak or 'Quercus Alba', The Glenlivet Quercus.

Aged in just one cask, there are only 250 bottles of The Glenlivet Quercus in existence, which will be available in the UK from 7 May for £200 exclusively from The Whisky Shop stores or <http://www.whiskyshop.com>. The Glenlivet Quercus will join The Whisky Shop's collection of rare and fine whiskies from the Pernod Ricard portfolio, including Royal Salute and Chivas Regal.

Each bottle of The Glenlivet Quercus is individually labelled with the cask number, cask name, age and bottling date; a record of the rarity of the whisky, which will never again be produced.

With thanks to cask strength bottling, non-chill filtration, and of course single cask aging, each bottle of The Glenlivet Quercus is as pure as possible. The American white oak gives The Glenlivet Quercus a wonderful depth of flavour and rich golden hue, with mellow, soft notes and a long finish:

Nose: Soft, ripe red apples intertwined with baked almonds. Mellow floral notes crescendo into a zesty flourish.

Taste: A soft, smooth, creaminess gradually develops until the whisky hints at chewy, sticky toffee. A delicate floral note creeps in, which lingers tantalisingly until a final burst of Seville orange rounds it off.

Finish: Long, sweet and very slightly dry.

Vicky Wood, Head of Marketing (Champagne, Whisky and Cognac), Pernod Ricard UK said, "In 2005, The Glenlivet released the first of its single cask bottlings, and we are very pleased to announce that in 2013, whisky enthusiasts and collectors alike will be able to purchase The Glenlivet Quercus in the UK, and enjoy its unique and distinctive character."

Andrew Torrance, Managing Director of The Whisky Shop, said: "We're delighted to be able to offer this unique bottling to The Whisky Shop customers at all of our 21 stores, including our Piccadilly flagship, as well as online at <http://www.whiskyshop.com>. The Glenlivet Quercus is a distinctive and rare product that will excite whisky enthusiasts across the country."

Submitted by [THE WHISKY SHOP](#)



Edinburgh firm offers free PR – apply now!

✖ [CATS PR](#) is a new business, based in Edinburgh, helping small and local companies progress in today's difficult market.

In order to gather together a portfolio to show off to potential future clients, we are offering free PR to three small businesses.

The deadline for applications is 8 May 2013 and participants can send a company blurb and the reason why free PR would be useful to them to: CATSPR@mail.com

Good Luck!

Submitted by [Jessica Longstaff](#)

Preview: Leith, in Black and Red

✖ "Brunswick Street Stairs"

It's not just Leith's locals who can boast character. According to artist Tommy Perman there is a bit of the unusual along its streets and shop fronts. A new exhibition at [The Red Door Gallery](#) in Victoria Street explores the unique design choices made by town planners, local residents and shop owners alike including such playful names as "Bacon Rolls Etc".

The exhibition will explore strong urban themes through faded glory, heavily guarded buildings hanging 'Welcome' signs and practical changes to listed buildings contradicting their original beauty. The art is shown in a variety of applications, print techniques, paper types and editing including limited edition skateboards from local skate shop FOCUS.

All works available from www.edinburghart.com from 27 April 2013

Five things you need to know today



Portobello High School – Fringe app – Queensferry Community High School tomorrow – ECA Fashion Show – Tonight at The Filmhouse

The council have taken a step in the direction of a new school in Portobello by lodging a Private Bill at Holyrood which they hope will allow them to build the school in Portobello Park. The bill aims to change the status of the land from inalienable to alienable – at least for educational purposes.

The council are still waiting to hear if they have been successful in purchasing the alternative site at Baileyfield from Scottish Power. This is the alternative site, and the council wanted to purchase the land there as a 'backstop'. If they are successful in buying the Baileyfield site and it is not used for a school, then councillors say they propose to use it for housing.



News from Edinburgh Festival Fringe:-

*The **2013 Fringe app** has arrived! Download the free app for iPhone and Android and discover the world of the Fringe at your fingertips. Go to edfringe.com/app or search your app store for “Edinburgh Festival Fringe” to download the app for free.*

The app is not only an easy way to browse shows and buy tickets on the go, but includes lots of features to help you navigate and enjoy all the Fringe has to offer, from exclusive Half Price Hut listings and Twitter feeds to a Nearby Now search function and an interactive calendar to help you plan your time at the Fringe.



The Edinburgh Reporter was at the Edinburgh College of Art Fashion Show yesterday afternoon. Here is a selection of what we saw: -

More Daniel Day-Lewis tonight at [The Filmhouse](#). In the Name of

the Father showing at 18:10. 95% on Rotten Tomatoes makes it a bit of a must see!

Cycling star to lead Pedal on Parliament next month

Graeme Obree to Attend Pedal on Parliament

Grass roots cycle campaign Pedal on Parliament are delighted to announce that Graeme Obree – otherwise known as ‘The Flying Scotsman’ – will be attending the second Pedal on Parliament (PoP2) on Sunday the 19th May. Graeme, two-time individual pursuit world champion (1993, 1995), and two-time world ‘hour record’ holder (1993, 1994) will be joining thousands of others in Edinburgh at 3pm at the Meadows to ride to the Scottish Parliament to present politicians with an eight point manifesto for safer cycling in Scotland. At last year’s demonstration 3000 cyclists, young and old, filled the streets of Edinburgh on everything from expensive road bikes to tiny balance bikes, sending a message that they wanted to see real investment in cycling, making it accessible for everyone from the smallest child to a world champion.

From the start, Pedal on Parliament has been supported by high-profile Scottish cyclists, including Mark Beaumont who attended the last event, and Sir Chris Hoy. After the numbers who turned out last year, far exceeding the organisers’ expectations, politicians have responded with kind words but only a small increase in cycle funding – just £6m, split over two years. These actions fall way short of the sort of investment required if the Scottish Government is to reach its own target of 10% of journeys by bike by 2020. Unless there is

a significant step change in funding very soon there is little chance of this target being met – as the recent Get Britain Cycling report has found, investment of at least £20 per head would be needed to achieve those levels of cycling across the UK. PoP asks for at least 5% of the transport budget to be spent on cycling and 10% on all active travel, which in Scotland would amount to about £25 per head.

Graeme Obree explained his motivation for supporting and attending the event

‘I would love to see Scotland develop a culture which supports cycling and encourages cycling as wholeheartedly as possible, be that for pleasure, leisure, transportation or competition. It’s one of the best ways to experience a town, city or the countryside, so any steps to improve consideration for the needs of cyclist will ultimately improve our country.’

The event itself will be a light-hearted ride, but with a serious purpose. The most recent road safety figures for Scotland show that the numbers of cyclists and pedestrians killed and seriously injured has actually risen. Experts have warned that the numbers of pedestrians and cyclists killed or seriously injured on Scotland’s roads are set to exceed those in cars within a few years.

Olympics and the success of Scottish cyclists Sir Chris Hoy and Paralympians Aileen McGlynn, Karen Darke and Neil Fachie have created a huge interest in cycling, with thousands more Scots taking to two wheels – but they will quickly give up if the conditions they encounter on the roads aren’t safe and inviting, and that will require real investment.

One of the organisers of PoP2, Sally Hinchcliffe said, “We’re absolutely thrilled to have Graeme on board with PoP, even if it’s likely to be the slowest bike ride he’s ever been on.

Professional riders like Graeme have to spend many hours training, and they know what the conditions can be like on the

roads. There's a whole generation of children growing up whose parents can't risk letting them out to cycle on their own simply because it's not safe. Not only have they lost the freedom we enjoyed on our bikes, but we risk losing the Graeme Obrees of tomorrow which is a tragedy for Scotland and for the whole world."

The organisers of Pedal on Parliament urge anyone who cycles in Scotland, or who would like to cycle in Scotland but doesn't feel safe, to join them and Graeme for PoP2 and maintain the pressure on the Scottish Government to put cycling at the heart of its transport policy.

Together we can make Scotland a cycle-friendly nation

Fatal road collision

Police in Edinburgh are appealing for witnesses following a fatal road collision.

The incident happened just after 7pm last night, Thursday 25 April, on Lasswade Road, between Lasswade and the City Bypass.

A 24-year-old woman was driving her Volkswagen Passat southbound when her vehicle was involved in a collision with a Lothian Bus.

Emergency services responded to the scene. However, the woman died at the scene as a result of her injuries.

The road remained closed last night while Road Policing Officers continued to investigate at the scene.

Anyone who can assist with their enquiries to come forward.

A Police Scotland spokesman said:- “Tragically, this collision resulted in a young woman’s death and we are currently trying to establish exactly what happened during this incident.

“Anyone with information relevant to this investigation is asked to contact police immediately.”

Portobello High School – Private Bill lodged at Holyrood



A Private Bill to allow the new Portobello High School to be built in Portobello Park was introduced in the Scottish Parliament today.

The City of Edinburgh Council is taking the comparatively rare step of seeking to introduce new legislation as the existing law presents an impediment to the Council building the much-needed school.

The Private Bill, which is being promoted by The City of Edinburgh Council, aims to change the Common Good status of Portobello Park from inalienable to ‘alienable’, but only for educational purposes. This means although the land would remain in the Common Good, the Council would be able to ‘appropriate it’, or change its use, to an educational purpose.

The Council recently consulted on its proposals for a Private

Bill and received resounding support to take it forward. The consultation produced the highest number of responses for any Council consultation in recent years, with over 12,000 individual responses received. Of the valid responses received from those who live in the city, 70% supported the proposals with the level of support from those in the local Portobello area being higher at 76%.



Convener of
Education – Paul
Godzik

Councillor Paul Godzik, Convener of Education, Children and Families, said:- “The Council is absolutely determined to deliver a new Portobello High School and today marks an important milestone in the project. The existing school is greatly in need of replacement and it is clear from the response to our recent consultation that the people of Edinburgh support our Private Bill to change the status of Portobello Park to allow the new Portobello High School to be built there.

“We believe we have a strong case to put to Parliament. This by far the best location for the much-needed new school and our open space compensation measures mean that the people of Portobello would not only gain a new park but also see improvements to other green space in the local community.”

Details of the bill are on the [Scottish Parliament website.](#)

Edinburgh Greens nominate candidate for Liberton and Gilmerton by-election

✖ Edinburgh Greens have chosen Alys Mumford to contest the Liberton-Gilmerton by-election on [20 June](#). Alys is 24 years old and is currently the director of Jubilee Scotland, a charity which campaigns on third world debt. She lives in the south of the city.

Alys said:-“This by-election takes place a year after the election of an expanded group of Green councillors in the City Chambers and a year of considerable campaigning success – from bedroom tax to better cycling and from school and swimming pool closures to challenging a “we know best” culture . It is also a year where our national messages of a radically different kind of Scotland have made a real impact, of social justice both here and across the world.

“I want to take those and other messages to people in Liberton-Gilmerton and I am confident of that they will strike a chord.” She also paid tribute to former councillor Tom Buchanan whose untimely death has led to the by-election, saying:-“Tom was a popular and well-regarded local councillor and will be a hard act to follow. I cannot promise to be the same councillor as Tom was but I share his passion for making the local economy work in the interests of people and I am committed to working just as hard and listening intently to what local people want me to do.”

Pennywell residents hit out

at bin store mess

Residents at a block of flats have hit out at the council for allowing their communal bin store to be full of rubbish. Residents have been complaining for the past six months about the smell coming from the bin area, an area that they don't have access to, and they were shocked when they got in today to see the mess that has built up.

The area has been closed off to tenants for some time, so the mess should have been discovered by council bin men when they emptied the refuse, but residents now believe it has been like this for months.

One resident who asked not be named, said:- "There has been a smell in the stair for months. None of us who live here knew what it was as the area is locked and only accessed by the bin men. I have reported this several times over the past few months. On Tuesday a girl from the Council was here talking about new kitchens and bathrooms and I made her aware of it and she was going to report it.

"The bucket chutes here are often blocked and the tenants have had no access to the bucket area for over two years following a fire. I have spotted mice in the stair on several occasions, and some of the neighbours have also reported issues with mice elsewhere in the block. As well as this horrible mess and smell there are also bars missing from the railings inside the stair and a child could easily fall through it."

Councillor Lesley Hinds, the Council's Environment Convener, said:- "This bin store is in an unacceptable condition. I have asked for it to be cleaned out as quickly as possible and for an explanation on why we have not responded to residents.

A spokesperson for local residents group, Tenants and Residents in Muirhouse said:- "We are aware of it and have

been down for a look, we will support the tenants in the stair in way we can.”

Pictures supplied by Robert Pearson

Edinburgh Students raising dough for MS



A group of Edinburgh University students are preparing for one of the nation's most mouth-watering fundraising events – the MS Society's Cake Break.

This year the MS Society is hoping to raise £50,000 from Cake Break across Scotland. It's money that could make a huge difference and will be spent on research, campaigning, information and support.

Cake Break takes place **next week** during **MS Week** (29th April-5th May 2013), which aims to raise awareness of the most common disabling neurological condition affecting young adults. An estimated 10,500 people in Scotland have multiple sclerosis (MS) and it affects almost twice as many women as men.

Emma Wakeling, 21, who helped set up the University's MS Fundraising Society said:-“Many people don't know that MS affects young people and that most people with MS are diagnosed in their twenties and thirties. Our Society aims to raise both awareness of MS and funds for vital research and support. The fact that we get to have fun making, selling and

eating cake is a bonus!"

Pictured here on the Royal Mile's Bakehouse Lane, the students hope to inspire others across the city to hold their own Cake Break events as well.

For more information about organising a Cake Break people can:

Go to www.cakebreak.org.uk T: 0845 481 1577 E: cakebreak@mssociety.org.uk FB: www.facebook.com/mssociety/events

For more details on the Cake Break at the University of Edinburgh, go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/edmssoc/>



Lothian Buses want your old phones



The award winning bus company is recycling old phones for charity.

Everybody has an old mobile phone lying around gathering dust at the back of a drawer or cupboard somewhere.

Lothian Buses are asking their staff and passengers to donate their old mobile phones so they can be recycled to raise money for the company's Charity of the Year, It's Good 2 Give. Mobile phones left on the company's buses that have been unclaimed after a month will also be recycled for the charity.

[It's Good 2 Give](#) is a local based charity offering support to young people with cancer and their families. Their aim is to raise £1 million to fund the build of a purpose-built respite house for young people and their families affected by cancer.

Phones can be handed into any of Lothian Buses Travelshops, located at Waverley Bridge, Hanover Street, Shandwick Place and Jarnac Court, Dalkeith.

Lynne McNicoll, Co-founder of It's Good 2 Give said:-"This is a brilliant way to raise money for the charity – we are delighted and will be encouraging our supporters to hand in their old phones to Lothian Buses offices." Lynne is photographed above launching the new It's Good 2 Give bus which you can see around the city.

Ian Craig, Managing Director, Lothian Buses said:-"Recycling old mobile phones is an easy way for everyone to get involved in helping our Charity of the Year, It's Good 2 Give. I will be looking out my old phone."

Five things you need to know today



Governance Risk and Best Value Committee – Domestic abuse seminar, Edinburgh – The Friends of Water of Leith Basin – House @42 – Today at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery

The council's Governance, Risk and Best Value committee meets

this morning at the City Chambers at 10. All papers are online [here](#) and deal with the slightly boring but important matters of the council's anticipated borrowing and capital position over coming years, and what the council will do to manage it.

The committee last met at the beginning of March when they agreed to pay £10,000 to the charity SANDS. This was recompense for the extra work it has had to undertake in supporting bereaved parents in Edinburgh affected by the confusion over disposal of babies' ashes at Mortonhall Crematorium.

If you can't make it along today then the committee's meeting on 15 August will be webcast on the council website and you will be able to follow the proceedings live.

A multi-agency seminar aimed at tackling domestic abuse in the west of Edinburgh is taking place today.

The south west neighbourhood Domestic Abuse Seminar, which is being held at the Woods Centre in Wester Hailes, will bring together professionals from a range of agencies, including Police Scotland, City of Edinburgh Council, NHS Lothian, and Scottish Women's Aid.

A series of workshops will take place at the event, all with the theme of keeping women and children safe.

Keynote speakers include Heather Coady, Scottish Women's Aid National Children's Policy Manager, who will speak about how abuse impacts upon children and how best services respond to families affected.

In addition, a Police Scotland officer from the newly formed Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit in Edinburgh will provide delegates with an update on the role of the new unit.

Inspector Stephen Dolan, from Police Scotland, said: "Police

Scotland is committed to keeping people safe, and today's seminar demonstrates our commitment to working with local partners in the west of Edinburgh to enhance our approach to domestic abuse.

"The seminar will allow professionals from various agencies to discuss and develop our collective approach to this issue.

"Domestic abuse is a priority for Police Scotland, the NHS and the City of Edinburgh Council and we are committed to challenging attitudes and bringing offenders to justice. We will continue to work with partners in the west of Edinburgh to develop solutions that help us to tackle this problem, which causes so much harm in local communities."

Melanie Hornett, Director of Nursing, NHS Lothian, said: "Domestic abuse and other forms of gender based violence can have an extremely negative effect upon the health and well being of a large number of people across all communities, and we support local events and seminars which help raise awareness and result in improving the quality of care for those affected as well as increasing their safety and access to help and support."

Michelle Miller, Chief Social Work Officer at the City of Edinburgh Council, said:

"We need to make sure that tackling domestic abuse is high on the agenda of our day to day business. Our workforce, whether in children's services, community care or criminal justice, all come across issues of domestic abuse and we need to coordinate workforce training across all agencies to establish a clear understanding of domestic abuse and of our responsibility to keep our communities in Edinburgh safe from harm, neglect and exploitation."



The Friends of the Water of Leith Basin need your help this weekend.

Please come along on Sunday 28th April at 11am to help us plant out all the wild flower plants bought with £1000 that we were awarded by Leith Decides. Meet at 11am at Coalie Park – [link below showing the location.](http://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=326670&Y=676494&A=Y&Z=110)

We have some tools but if you have your own trowel or hand fork bring them along.

The weather is forecast to be warm but overcast so an ideal day for planting out.

Please come and join us because many hands make light work. Everyone is welcome so if any of your friends and neighbours can help bring them along.

The House @42 continues to offer good music despite continuing to discuss its continuing existence with the council. Tomorrow you can see [The Seznec Brothers](#) described as:-

Appalachian banjo tunes, electroacoustic composition, 1960s West African pop and interactive sound art. Ecclectic, that's their middle name.....



On now at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery is a wonderful exhibition all about the funny people who have entertained us over the years.

“Tickling Jock celebrates Scotland’s masters of mirth and our truly distinctive contribution to the world of entertainment in the twentieth century.”



Civil Service Strollers FC announce new football partnership

Civil Service Strollers FC have confirmed they have entered into a Football Partnership with Salvesen Community FC. The agreement, which is for an initial two year period, allows a pathway for young players to develop within the game, and make the transition from Youth to Senior football. Both these Clubs have been at the forefront of Football within the Edinburgh area for a great number of years and are looking forward to a long and successful partnership. Both clubs will continue to operate under their individual names.



From next season the Civil Service Strollers First Team will be managed by former Salvesen Coach, Andy Raeburn, who returns to Civil Service Strollers for a second spell and former Salvesen player Ryan Harding joins Civil as First Team Coach /Player after playing over 180 SFL games mainly with Greenock Morton and Alloa Athletic.

Civil Service Strollers Vice President, Tom Brown said:- "We are delighted with the partnership agreement and see many opportunities for both parties. We firmly believe this is the way forward and look forward to working with Salvesen FC".

SalvesenFC Chairman, Athole MacDonald said:-" We are delighted to partner with CSS to provide a pathway for players to progress from our club into the East of Scotland Leagues. We look forward to working closely with CSS to provide the best opportunity for our players to develop in football".

Art in the Grassmarket



Pyramids and sound speakers of Global Sounds at the Mound

A city with an international reputation for welcoming visitors, Edinburgh attracts people from all over the world and many decide to stay and make it their home. In 2010 over seven thousand did just that, but what does it mean for the city itself? Napier University Interactive Design post-graduate Rebecca Gischel decided to create a work of art that would express the "interesting flow of ideas, views and values".



Rebecca Gischel with Global Sounds at the Grassmarket

Each pyramid represents a different culture and when someone goes near it, it comes alive with light and a specific musical instrument, like a Chinese harp or bagpipe. When enough people interact with the design it becomes a whole song, written by a German composer especially for this project.

Trystan Davies for The Edinburgh Reporter, spoke to Rebecca at her first exhibition at the Grassmarket:

[listen to 'Flow of people create play of music and light' on Audioboo](#)

You can learn more about Rebecca's work on her [Facebook page](#) or you can visit the next exhibition which will be at the Grassmarket on Sunday the 28th of April at 9pm.

VIDEO – Edinburgh College of Art Fashion Show – tickets still available!



The Edinburgh College of Art Fashion Show will showcase the latest designs from some of the UK's brightest students studying fashion, performance costume, and textiles – and we have a sneak preview from the dress rehearsal this afternoon.

The good news is that there are still tickets available for Thursday afternoon. So get your skates on! Details of how to buy tickets are shown below.

Here is a whirlwind snippet of what you might see:-

Collections in this year's fashion students will feature a diverse range of designs, the inspiration for which includes lost Peruvian tribes, hip-hop jockeys, 1990s kids TV shows, and the sleek shapes of luxury yachts.

Two students are sponsored by Sophie Hallette Lace, which produced the lace for the Duchess of Cambridge's wedding dress and regularly works with the top couture houses in Paris. And for the first time at the fashion show, a student will create a collection solely featuring headwear.

What's more, outlandish performance costumes inspired by Japanese fairytales and legend, African Maasai warriors, and Mexican magical-realism

will be among the highlights from the costume students.

One student has an African version of the ancient Greek comedy, The Birds. Another student has created a macabre dress train made from fake human eyeballs.

Tickets are on sale now costing £15 each (plus £1.50p booking fee). They can be purchased via Hub Tickets (<http://www.hubtickets.co.uk/>).

This year the show will have its own Twitter hashtag: #ecafashow. More information on the students and their collections will be added to the official website in coming weeks: <http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/edinburgh-college-art/fashion-shows/2013-fashion-show>



Scottish Power Swap Shop



ScottishPower Swap Shop reaches out to 5,000 schoolchildren to mark fifth anniversary of ScottishPower Swap Shop,

Children across Scotland are set to take part in the country's biggest book swap when thousands of kids exchange their favourite stories with friends in an initiative from Edinburgh International Book Festival sponsor ScottishPower.

This year is the fifth anniversary of the ScottishPower Swap Shop – an award-winning initiative which encourages primary school children to read more and recycle old books whilst raising lots of money for charity.

To commemorate the landmark year, acclaimed author Vivian French visited Edinburgh primary schools to encourage the youngsters to dig out their favourite books and share them with their classmates. ScottishPower is hoping to involve 5,000 children from across Scotland with five lucky schools getting the chance to win a visit from a children's author attending the Edinburgh International Book Festival.

Colin Hattersley Photography

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Requests for 'out of catchment' school places reduces

More children will be attending schools near their homes from this year.

The number of requests for out-of-catchment primary school places in Edinburgh has fallen compared to last year, even though the number of children registering for Primary 1 places has gone up.

In total 807 requests were received by the City of Edinburgh Council this year compared to 1109 last year – a drop of 27 per cent.

The fall in placing requests follows a concerted campaign by the Council to encourage parents to learn more about their catchment school and the benefits of their child attending it.

The increased pressure of rising school rolls meant that 577 requests have been initially refused out of the 807 received. Last year 610 out of 1109 placing requests were refused.

The number of P1 registrations has increased from 4408 last year to 4538 – an increase of three per cent.

The Council has written to all parents who made placing

requests outside their local school to inform them of their decision.

Earlier this year the Council told parents that many placing requests would not be met due to the pressure of higher school rolls. The primary school population has increased by three per cent this year and is expected to rise by a further 20 per cent by 2019.

Councillor Paul Godzik, Education Convener, said: "It is encouraging that the number of requests has fallen because this shows that parents have increased confidence in sending their child to the local catchment school.

"Having met with many parents who failed with placing requests and then sent their children to their local school, I know there are a huge number of positive stories. From children feeling part of their local community or simply the health benefits of walking to school, the feedback has been that the local catchment school has provided very well for their child.

"I know that some parents will be disappointed, however we have sought to be as open as possible throughout this process. We warned parents they may not get the place they were hoping for, and for the first time we published a list of schools where out-of-catchment requests were unlikely to succeed.

"Those families who failed with requests will have their child registered with their local catchment school and will start next August alongside other local children."

Councillor Godzik also said that because many primary schools were reaching capacity, appeals are unlikely to be successful.

Five things you need to know today



Tram Project Update – Priority Parking – Afternoon Tea with the Military Wives Choir – Wine tasting at The Scotsman Hotel – Postcode Challenge

The trams are not due to start running until the beginning of next year, but work has powered ahead in the last 12 months since the new council administration took over. The Edinburgh Reporter went on a tram journey in March when the part of the line between Gogar and the Airport was handed over to the council by the contractors. You can see tram drivers practising out there most days. We recorded a little video of the journey which you can watch below.

The council's Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee meet tomorrow, and will hear from the Chief Executive, Sue Bruce, who will tell them that the total revised budget of £776m has largely been spent, although by no means all of it. £728m has been spent on work completed to date, which leaves a healthy balance for completion, according to the report. Part of the £776m is a risk budget of £34m of which £28.7m has been spent on utility works, such as drainage and diversions of utility pipes and cables.

It should not be a surprise to anyone keeping a close eye on the project how much has now been spent, as the poles and tracks are largely in place, although there is a lot of tidying up to do in both Shandwick Place and York Place. The report narrates that what are described as the 'civil works' in St Andrew Square will be finished by the end of this week, and the other works involving putting in the electric cables to power the tram line will be installed by December 2013.

Work in the West End should be completed and the road surface laid by June this year. Whether or not you agree with the tram project, and all the ups and downs it has had, the reassuring thing in the report to the council is that it now appears to be on time and within the revised budget.

There is a public meeting at the Blackhall Library this evening from 19:00 onwards. The following streets in the Craigleith and Blackhall area have been proposed for formal consultation on Priority Parking:-Blinkbonny Avenue, Blinkbonny Gardens, Blinkbonny Grove, Blinkbonny Grove West, Blinkbonny Road, Craigleith Drive (north of bridge), Craigleith Road, Orchard Crescent and Orchard Drive.

Earlier consultations have also taken place in the Maidencraig and Groathill areas. This is a rerun of the consultation needed on priority parking as explained [here in a report](#) to the March Transport Committee meeting.

A public meeting has been arranged in the Blackhall Library and councillors will be in attendance to answer questions..

[You can see a map of the affected area here.](#)

The Edinburgh Military Wives Choir is to perform at an exclusive afternoon tea event at The Caledonian, A Waldorf Astoria Hotel, this Sunday.

The event is being run in aid of charity It's good 2 Give, and is hosted by Grant Stott. The choir will perform some of the songs for which the Military Wives have become famous including 'Wherever You Are' from The Military Wives' album, among other well-known songs.

Gill Raw, chair of the Edinburgh Military Wives Choir, said:-

“We are a newly formed choir and we are thrilled to have the opportunity to perform in the gorgeous surrounding of The Caledonian, A Waldorf Astoria Hotel and to support Lynne McNicoll (such an amazing lady!) and her charity. The ethos of the Military Wives Choirs is to bring women in the military community together to have fun and enjoy music. We have put together a lovely programme which we are looking forward to performing.’

There are still a few tickets available for Afternoon Tea with the Military Wives on 28th April (2-4pm) priced £30 per person. The menu includes freshly prepared finger sandwiches, freshly baked scones with clotted cream and strawberry jam and a mouthwatering selection of treats including chocolate éclairs, strawberry tarts and Gateaux Opera together with your choice of tea or coffee. To book your place email info@itsgood2give.co.uk

If you are interested in joining the newly established Edinburgh Military Wives Choir, contact edgarmilitarywiveschoir@gmail.com or call 0131-310 2876



The Scotsman Hotel, in association with [Liberty Wines](#), is putting on an extravagant evening of Australian wine tasting and fine dining in their exclusive Russell Suite on Thursday 25th April at 7pm.

The menu has been prepared by The Scotsman Hotel's Executive Head Chef, Paul Hart, who has worked closely with [Liberty Wines](#) to produce a menu to delight wine aficionados and budding bon vivants. The wine's featured are from the renowned

houses of [Innocent Bystander](#) and [Mitolo](#).

To make a booking, call **0131 556 5565** or email scotsman-events@thescotsmanhotel.co.uk



☐ Planning ahead for the weekend now. News about an event from Innertube Map.

This coming Sunday 28 April 2013 is the third Postcode Challenge on the north Edinburgh paths – a chance to explore the routes, discover new ones and win prizes at the same time.

Dotted around the network will be ten stands, run by local organisations. Find your first one and they will give you a card. Get the card stamped at all ten locations (five if you are on foot) and bring it back to the event HQ at Fiveways Junction by 4pm to be entered into the free prize draw. As well as the main prizes, many of the stands may have freebies and presents to give away too.

The event is totally traffic free and great for all ages. Take part on your own or as part of a team.

You can download a cyclist route map and stamp card [here](#) or if you are on foot, download the [walkers' version](#). Or just collect one at the first stand you find.

Look out for the following stalls on the route:

- 1. The Bike Station – for bike repairs with Dr Bike*
- 2. Edinburgh & Lothians Greenspace Trust*
- 3. The Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop – check out their*

- gorgeous new building!*
- 4. Greener Leith*
 - 5. Spokes*
 - 6. Sustrans*
 - 7. Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre*
 - 8. Harts Cyclery*
 - 9. My Edinburgh*
 - 10. Edinburgh Bicycle Co-op*

We can't tell you where each stand will be – but once you've found the first one, you're away. If in doubt, head to Fiveways Junction.

And thank you to the following for donating prizes: Spokes, the Bike Station, Harts Cyclery Edinburgh Bicycle Co-op and Green Yonder Tours

This event is part of the Innertube project, funded thanks to players of People's Postcode Lottery and via the People's Postcode Trust.

For further information, please contact Ruth on 0131 445 4025 or email ruth@elgt.org.uk

Care Inspectorate urges discussion about care services

INVOLVING PEOPLE IN CARE SERVICES “ESSENTIAL”, WARNS CARE INSPECTORATE

Involving old and vulnerable people in key decisions about the

care they receive is “essential”, the Care Inspectorate will warn today.

The call comes in a joint speech at a conference in Edinburgh called Caring for the Rising Population of Older People in Scotland: Care, Protection and Partnerships from Chief Executive Annette Bruton and David Tares, who volunteers as a lay assessor for the care standards watchdog. They will call for a much greater emphasis on an approach known widely as “involvement”, where people who use care homes and other care services are properly engaged in the way their care is delivered.

The speech comes as the Care Inspectorate released new figures showing that the standards of involvement in Scotland are rising – but are graded as “excellent” or “very good” in only a half of all care services. They will argue that measuring involvement is a key indicator of quality – and that involving people properly in decisions about their care is cost efficient as the right choices are likely to be made first time round.

✘ Annette Bruton, Chief Executive, is expected to say: -
“Scotland, like many countries, faces a growing population of older people. More people will need support to live out their older days in dignity. That poses a challenge for families, government, charities and the many professionals who care for people but one thing is essential: people who receive care must help plan how it is delivered.

“Social care cannot be something that happens to you when you grow old or if you are vulnerable. The best care is something people plan, design and deliver together. There are examples of great practice for all to see. Our inspections show that over half of the care services in Scotland scored our top grades for involving people, and the numbers are rising.

“In the coming decades, my sense is that we will see many more

care-at-home services. That poses new challenges for involving people – and new challenges for delivery partners and regulators to ensure quality – which will be unmet unless involvement is at the heart of the agenda.

“Our inspectors will continue to measure how well services involve people in the delivery of their own care. It’s not just the right thing to do – it is essential to deliver high-quality care that reflects people’s needs and promotes their rights. Scotland cannot afford to get it wrong.”

David Tares, a lay assessor with the Care Inspectorate and a member of its involving people group, is expected to say: “If we want to improve the care people receive, there is one sure-fire way to do. It’s to involve people in decisions about their lives. In too many care services, people are not consulted about what happens to them.

“It is really important because often the views of people running care services are radically different from the views of the people who use them. I think it is great that the Care Inspectorate genuinely looks at this when they are out on inspection and reports on what they find. At the end of the day, everybody knows what is best for them. We are the experts about ourselves and our lives.

“I volunteer as a lay assessor with the Care Inspectorate, meaning I join inspection teams when they go into a care home or supported housing. I think having a disabled person coming in and talking to residents really breaks down barriers. And as the population gets older, there won’t be money to waste on getting care services wrong. Most services are really good, but the biggest reason for something going wrong is that somebody somewhere didn’t ask.”

Scottish Cup Final 26 April 1902 Hibs 1 Celtic 0



Every football fan from the capital knows that Hibs last won the Scottish Cup in 1902. Hibs' supporters are reminded of this statistic every year whenever a cup tie is played, and rival Hearts' fans even have a song to commemorate the fact.

Friday 26 April 2013 marks the 111th anniversary of that historic day, and The Edinburgh Reporter looks back at Hibs' last Scottish Cup win.

By the start of the 20th century, professional football was attracting crowds of up to 30,000, with Hibs considered to be one of the most attractive teams in the country.

Goalkeepers were permitted to handle the ball anywhere in their own half, and Hibs had a remarkable character in Harry Rennie who kept goal on the half way line. In defence, full backs Archie 'Baldy' Gray and Bob Glen supported a formidable half back line of Bernard Breslin, Jimmy Harrower and Alex Robertson.

Up front, the five man forward line included Johnny McCall, Andy McGeechan, John Divers, Bobby Atherton and Paddy Callaghan.

Paddy Callaghan's career started in 1898 when he sacrificed a junior cap to sign for Hibs from Jordanhill, and he then remained with the club for 17 years. He was capped consistently for Scotland against Ireland on the grounds, he felt, that he could act as an interpreter.

Amazingly he was deaf, or so he pretended, but he broke his nose against Third Lanark and his hearing miraculously returned.

Bobby Atherton was the first Hibs player to be capped for a country other than Scotland. Although born in Wales in 1876, he was brought up north of the Border.

Hibs were desperate to bring the Scottish Cup back to the capital, and started the 1901/2 campaign with a 2-0 home victory over Clyde then travelled west to dispose of Port Glasgow Athletic 5-1. At Hampden Park, a 7-1 victory over Queens Park set up a semi-final against Rangers.

In those days, semi-finals were not played at neutral venues, so Hibs had to travel to Ibrox, but the 2-0 win came at a cost with right winger Willie McCartney suffering a broken leg.

The final was scheduled to take place at Ibrox, but a few weeks before the game, the back of the newly built West Tribune Stand collapsed due to heavy rainfall the previous night, during a Scotland v England Home International. 25 people died and 517 were injured, but the game was allowed to continue to avoid supporters exiting en masse crowding the area obstructing rescue workers.

Instead, Hibs sportingly agreed that the game could be played at Parkhead, the home ground of opponents Celtic.

In the lead up to the game, the players were confined to the ground during the evenings to prevent them taking advantage of the local hostelries, and reportedly plied with mugs of hot chocolate and doorstep sized sandwiches.

☒ Gale force winds in the west of Scotland limited the crowd to around 15,000, and those who stayed away missed little during a dull first half, which suited the Hibs players as they were playing into the strong wind.

Jimmy Harrower in particular did a fine marking job on former Hibs player Sandy McMahon who had been at the club in the latter days of the 'Old Hibernian'. With Celtic unable to harness the wind, keeper Harry Rennie had a comfortable 45 minutes.

In the second half, the winds were so strong that clearances from the Celtic defenders were often blown back into the penalty box or for corners, so there seemed little chance that the Glasgow team would be able to progress sufficiently to worry Rennie, but that's exactly what they did. George Livingstone broke away and his shot beat the Hibs keeper but rebounded off the crossbar, to the feet of Celtic forward William McCafferty who made a mess of the opportunity.

Hibs then dominated possession and a goal seemed to be only a matter of time. Bobby Atherton looked as if he had scored it with a splendid effort, and even danced a jig of joy, but to his dismay and that of the Hibs fans in the ground, the 'goal' was disallowed.

The referee's decision only postponed the inevitable and a few minutes later, Paddy Callaghan took a corner which rolled along the ground. Bobby Atherton standing at the near post allowed the ball to run through to Andy McGeechan who wheeled and struck into the net from close range.

An unfounded rumour persists that a Hibs player did a fine imitation of Celtic keeper McFarlane's distinctive brogue to persuade full back Barney Battles to leave the ball as it came across. Despite the Celtic protests, referee Mr Murray from Stenhousemuir heard nothing untoward and the goal stood.

Hibs continued to press forward and should have increased their lead but with time running out, a last minute counter attack from Celtic almost brought an equaliser.

The cup was presented to Hibs Club President Phillip Farmer, Great Uncle of current owner Sir Tom Farmer, in the Alexandra

Hotel. There was a band at Queen Street Station in Glasgow to see off the triumphant heroes, and another to meet them at Haymarket.



Waverley Station under construction - copyright RCAHMS
(Scottish Colorfoto Collection)

A 'brake' carried the team, with captain Bobby Atherton holding the trophy aloft along Princes Street to the Waverley Station where traffic had been stopped because of a reception by a crowd of ten thousand, the biggest yet for a cup winning team.

The Hibs team that day was Rennie, Gray, Glen, Breslin, Harrower, Robertson, McCall, McGeachan, Divers, Callaghan, and Atherton.

Straight away, Hibs were invited to take part in the Glasgow Charity Cup and in the final, proved beyond argument their superiority to Celtic by winning 6-2, having been 5-0 up at half time. The Hibs trophy room then contained four trophies, The Scottish Cup, The Glasgow Charity Cup, The Rosebery Cup and the East of Scotland Cup.

The following season, Hibs won the Scottish League Championship for the first time, losing only once in the 22 games played, gaining 37 points from a possible 44. Dundee were runners up with 31 points.

There was a sad post script to the legendary cup winning team. After a short spell with Chelsea, Bobby Atherton returned to Edinburgh and stayed in Elgin Street near to Easter Road. He served in the Merchant Navy during the First World War and drowned when his ship, the Britannia, disappeared without trace. Sailing out of Leith, it was believed to have been sunk by a mine or enemy submarine in the North Sea on or around 19th October 1917.

The two great rivals meet again at Hampden on Sunday 26 May 2013 and Hibs' fans are hoping that Leigh Griffiths can emulate the deeds of Andy McGeechan and score the goal which brings the trophy back to Leith.

Government offers Cash for recycling

✖ If you are old enough to remember glass lemonade bottles, then you will recall that taking these back to the shop resulted in a few pennies being refunded. Now that we are a recycling nation (again!) we are being coaxed back to old-fashioned ways. The Scottish Government is introducing a scheme to give money for cans and bottles being handed in at several centres around Edinburgh.

IKEA, Dundee University, Network Rail and Whitmuir Organics are amongst the nine companies and organisations trialling the projects, which will reward people for recycling glass, aluminium and plastic (PET) drinks containers through a range of incentives such as money back, discount vouchers or vouchers for donations to charities.

It is hoped that the local pilot projects, part of the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Scotland programme, will encourage people to recycle more and limit the amount of used drinks containers going to landfill.

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Environment Richard Lochhead visited IKEA in Edinburgh today to see the first of the 'reverse vending' machines and hear how the retailer is introducing the scheme in its Scottish stores as a key part of its sustainability programme.

At IKEA, shoppers will be able to recycle any glass, plastic or aluminium drinks containers purchased from the restaurant, shop, or vending machines in their Edinburgh and Glasgow stores. Once returned and deposited through the machine, for each item shoppers will be offered the choice of a 10p voucher to redeem in-store or a 10p donation to one of the stores' selected charities.

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Environment Richard Lochhead said:

"Years ago, we thought nothing of taking our empty glass bottles back to the shops with the added bonus of getting cash back in our pocket. Now thanks to modern technology we are breathing new life into this traditional approach through the Recycle and Reward scheme. By offering customers incentives such as money back or vouchers for recycling their glass bottles and cans when out shopping, at college or travelling to work, I hope we can encourage more people to recycle on the go.

"Each year, around 22,000 tonnes of plastic drinks bottles alone go to landfill in Scotland. If that was separated for recycling it could be worth around £6 million to the economy and that's why it's so important that we help more people to recycle what they can.

"Even small steps like recycling more drinks containers can have a big impact on our environment. I hope this new scheme will encourage everyone to go that bit further, helping us to become a zero waste society. By taking small actions to go greener together we benefit Scotland today and for future generations."

Linton Scarborough, Store Manager, IKEA Edinburgh, said:

"At IKEA, we are committed to ensuring sustainability is at the heart of what we do. We strive to be a good neighbour and we want to inspire and enable our customers to live a more

sustainable life at home, helping them to save or generate energy, reduce or sort waste, use less or recycle water. We have a number of different sustainability initiatives in place in stores across the UK and also as a company, so we are thrilled to be the first business to trial the 'Recycle and Reward' scheme at both of the Scottish IKEA stores. We are excited about this great addition to IKEA Edinburgh and hope it will play a part in making sure recycling is always front of mind for both our customers and co-workers alike."

Iain Gulland, Director, Zero Waste Scotland, said:

"It's vital that we consider fresh approaches to boosting recycling rates and capturing the value of materials which would otherwise be sent straight to landfill. Through this pilot, we want to assess the impact of this approach which has proved successful around the world, including in Germany, South Australia and Scandinavia. It's important we change the way people view waste in Scotland and we'll be looking at how incentivising these recycling schemes impacts on recycling rates and complements other schemes designed to capture valuable materials, including kerbside, recycling centres and banks."

In total, nine 'Recycle and Reward' schemes will be piloted at 14 locations including retail outlets, event venues, shopping centres, schools and colleges, as part of the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Scotland programme. The local pilots, which will run until September 2013, will be independently monitored and evaluated to assess the potential impact the roll-out of similar schemes could have on recycling rates in Scotland.

The following projects have been awarded funding through the Recycle and Reward pilot scheme:

- **University of Dundee** – An on-campus initiative, with on-site reverse vending machines placed in prominent areas

for use by staff and students.

- **Cordia Services LLP** –Reverse vending machines will be placed in the refectory areas of Glasgow Caledonian University for use by students and staff
- **Heriot Watt University** – An on-campus deposit and return initiative, with on-site reverse vending machines placed in prominent areas for use by staff and students.
- **Whitmuir Organics** – A deposit and return pilot project for the collection of glass, aluminium and plastic (PET) containers at Whitmuir Farm
- **North Ayrshire Council** – Reverse vending pilot for aluminium and PET at Garnock Academy, Ardrossan Academy and Largs Academy
- **IKEA, in partnership with the Reverse Vending Corporation** – Fully automated pilot for glass, aluminium and plastics (PET) with the 2 Scottish IKEA stores
- **South Ayrshire Council** – Reverse vending machines will be placed at the Council's Community Recycling Centres in Troon and Marr College
- **Network Rail** – Reverse vending machines for aluminium and plastics (PET) to be placed in Edinburgh Waverley and Glasgow Central rail stations for use by commuters
- **Hebridean Celtic Festival** – Reverse vending machines to be placed at the Celtic Festival

VIDEO – Morningside Youth Pipe Band looking for new members and sponsorship



Morningside Youth Pipe Band (MYPB) only started playing together in November last year, but we found them in great form at Boroughmuir High School last Friday, where there was a bake sale to raise funds for them. Band members are aged between 9 and 13 and include pupils attending South Morningside Primary School and Boroughmuir.

The band competed in the inaugural Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships last month, and although they didn't win they very much enjoyed the experience!

The organisers now want to promote the pipe band with a view to increasing membership to all schools in the Boroughmuir cluster, and The Edinburgh Reporter spoke to Kerry Simpson, one of the mums who is organising the fundraising, to find out more:-



Queen Margaret University off to forge links with Malawi

Scottish academics will travel to Malawi to celebrate an important milestone with Malawian graduates who have influenced international health.

Experts from the Institute of International Health and Development (IIHD), based at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, will reunite with graduates at a celebratory event which marks the Institute's 20th anniversary. The alumni event, which will take place on 7 May 2013 in Lilongwe, Malawi, will bring together an impressive group of international health

graduates who have positively influenced international health and development in Malawi and beyond.

Since the time when the Scottish missionary David Livingstone first visited the Malawi in the mid 19th century, Scotland has enjoyed a special relationship with the country. Links with Malawi have been further strengthened over the last few years following various Scottish Government initiatives which have encouraged collaboration.

Queen Margaret University has a long standing association with Malawian scholars in the field of global health and social development. Attracting students from all over the world, IIHD has seen 37 Malawians graduate from the Institute with a Masters or PhD diploma. Many of these graduates have gone on to hold senior positions within the Malawian government, charitable health organisations and leading universities – all have made a significant contribution to the development of international health policies and social development in Malawi. Some of their influence will have also been felt far beyond Malawi, in other areas of Africa and further afield.

The Institute for International Health and Development specialises in delivering world class teaching and research in the areas of global health and social development. The alumni event in Malawi is being supported by some of the Institute's most prominent graduates including Jimmy Dixon Gama, who graduated with an MSc in Social Development and Health in 2003. Jimmy went on to complete a PhD with IIHD in 2009 and now lectures at the College of Medicine in the University of Malawi, specialising in health systems management, health policy and reproductive health. Kibble Ngalauka graduated with an MSc in Social Development and Health from IIHD in 2005, and went on to become a design and development specialist for the organisation, World Vision Malawi. Rose Kumwenda-Ng'oma, Executive Director of the Christian Health Association of Malawi (CHAM), is also a former IIHD graduate, having achieved

an MSc in Social Development and Health in 2002.

Professor Barbara McPake, Director of the Institute for International Health and Development, explained:- “This a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the global reach which has been achieved by the Institute over the last 20 years and on the successes of our graduates. It is very satisfying to see the ripple effect from partnerships of an international mix of staff and students, having such positive outcomes in other countries. “

Professor McPake concluded: “We are very proud to continue developing this important and meaningful relationship between Scotland and Malawi. We look forward to celebrating with Jimmie, Kibble, Rose, and many other illustrious alumni, and to developing new relationships with important stakeholders in the Malawian health sector.”

Granton tunnel gets a makeover



A group of young people from Drylaw have been taking part in an Art project over the past two months, transforming a tunnel on the cycle path in Granton from a dull dark place to a nice bright one, with lots of amazing images that they created along with Leith based artist Chris Young.

The project was organised by the Edinburgh & Lothians Greenspace Trust project manager, Charlie Cummings, who said:-

“We’re delighted with the transformation of the tunnel, thanks to the artist, Chris Young, and the Fet Lor Youth Group. We hope that everyone using the tunnel will enjoy the artwork depicting scenes from the North Edinburgh cycleways and be inspired to explore the Innertubemap routes.”

Chris Young has been working with the group for the past four months and is delighted with the project. He said:- “This has been a great project. It was really interesting researching the history of the area so that some of the images could reflect the historical aspect. The young people have enjoyed taking part in the project and I would like to work with them in the future on more community art projects.”

Youth worker paddles to raise funds

A youth worker from the North of the city will paddle fifty-seven miles in less than twenty four hours as part of a fundraising campaign for a new building. Mark Foster who is the manager at Fet Lor Youth Centre on Crewe Road South, decided he wanted to help raise money for the proposed new Centre.

Fet Lor Youth Centre is one of the oldest youth projects in Edinburgh and has been based in its current venue for over fifty years. Two years ago the board of Directors started looking at ways to improve the Centre and enlisted the services of an Architect to work with the club members to ensure that the new building would become reality.



Mark Foster is preparing

for his adventure.

Now that that the young people have been engaged in the planning of the new building, the directors are now aiming to secure the required levels of funding to make the dream a reality.

Mark intends to paddle the Great Glen in just twenty-four hours, normally this is paddled over three days, and he has so far raised over £500 for doing so. Mark said:- "Part of my fundraising effort this year is to complete the Great Glen Paddle.

This is an organised event which takes place on 27 April and goes from Fort William to Inverness – 57 miles in total. Canal and river sections are included as well as the opportunity to do battle with Nessie along the length of Loch Ness.

It can be done in 2 ways. Either as a non-stop paddle or as a 3 day trip, but where's the fun in that? Non-stop it is!



The Architects design for the new building

I have previously done this trip as a bike / canoe combination but this will be the first time entirely on the water. It's going to be a challenge, but worth it for a great cause."

This won't be the first time Mark has taken part in such sponsored events. Two years ago Mark cycled from Lands End to John O'Groats to raise money for an After School Club.

If you would like to sponsor Mark please click [here](#).

Edinburgh's no eviction strategy not echoed in East Lothian



The City of Edinburgh Council decided last week to take a stance on council tenants who are in arrears of rent. Their stance is one of cooperation and avoidance rather than legal enforcement, where the tenants cooperate with the council in trying to address any debts due. At the Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee meeting there was a lengthy discussion by elected members, following deputations by UNITE and Edinburgh Tenants Federation, which were listened to intently.

A total of £1.3m has been set aside by the council to deal with those cases where tenants might encounter difficulties and hardship, and a further £360,000 has been reserved for advice services such as CHAI and Citizens Advice Bureaux.

The council decided that they will not evict any tenants who are in arrears as a result of the introduction of new welfare reforms by the UK Government, otherwise known as the bedroom tax. Councillor Ricky Henderson, Convener of Health, Social Care and Housing, reminded the committee that the report being considered was generated by a previous Green Group motion. "We decided to adopt the no eviction rule, and that is the reason for the report. Tenants could find themselves in difficulties with arrears as a result of the bedroom tax. We could not countenance as a council pursuing tenants whose only offence was that the UK Government had moved the goalposts. But this is not without consequences. It has implications on jobs and income in our rental sector.

"There are a lot of other mitigating measures and we feel that external partners might make some practical suggestions. We

have a lot of challenges ahead and the welfare reforms implemented throughout the UK will have a significant impact on the city.

“It is essential that people make every effort to pay their rent as this funds housing services and investment. However, this decision will protect our tenants from losing their home due to the impact of the ‘bedroom tax’. We will do all that we can to support the people most affected by these changes and our ‘no eviction’ policy is an important step towards this.”

The council is also seeking an early meeting with the UK Government to put forward the implications of the welfare reforms in Edinburgh.


✘ Cameron Rose, Conservative Group Leader, who opposed the motion, said:-“I would like to offer my thanks to the deputations for all of the information. Allow me to take a moment or two to paint the big picture. The fact of the matter is that the welfare bill has a trajectory which is stratospheric. We have increased the overall bill, but the new measures taken do not reduce the welfare bill at all. What is happening is that there is a reduction in the increase of welfare spending. This year the absolute amount will reduce slightly, but over the next few years the increase will be reduced. That is all.”

“There are a number of tenants who welcome the reforms and who look at the current unfairness. There are those who are in overcrowded accommodation but are unable to move because there are a number of people who are being subsidised for rooms which they are not occupying.

“There are a lot of people who cannot get on the list due to under-occupation. This is an issue of fairness. We have had an average of 500 one bedroom houses becoming available which of course is just not enough. Some will be in financial difficulty and some will be able to pay the extra. Let us not

be under any illusion about this. There will be difficult cases but money has been allocated to the problem. I hope that addresses some of the principles. Part of the motion by Councillor Henderson is a proposal to have a monitoring group, but we already have that in place. It seems to me that this will be a political monitoring group. I am not sure that the creation of another monitoring group will help those in great financial need or in need of other support.

"The 500 places needed will increase as time goes on, but people have told me that they are already planning to move, so there is more housing stock going to become available.

Councillor Joanna Mowat, the Conservative Councillor for  the City Centre ward said:- " I second this amendment. We are trying to rein in the welfare budget because we see how much it has grown over the last ten years. I agree that it is better to be involved with people before they get into trouble with rent, but we agree that there is moral good in the new regime. The council has put a lot of money into getting people into work so that they have a positive destination when they leave education. This is another strand to that. We recognise what the council is trying to do, but we believe that you have to retain the ability to evict tenants. You send out mixed messages if not, and I feel that we are locking tenants into a cycle of debt.

Green Councillor Steve Burgess, who supported the Capital Coalition motion which was eventually passed, said:- "It is absurd and immoral to try and evict people when there is nowhere for them to go. The key to protecting people from arrears is the direct engagement with tenants who fall into arrears."

Councillor Lesley Hinds accused the Tories of trying to divide people. The myths being rehearsed by the UK government are staggering. If you look at the facts, then the majority of people claiming housing benefit are in work. Is it then a

result of low wages? To keep on saying that those on benefits are scroungers is the wrong philosophy. The only one bedroom houses in my ward in Drylaw are sheltered houses. So do they have to move to other areas? That is the reality on the ground Councillor Rose! They have to claim benefits as they simply do not have enough money coming into their household.

"This scheme is divisive and cruel. What we have to do is pick up the pieces of the legislation. We care about what happens to people in Edinburgh unlike the Conservatives."

Councillor Paul Godzik said:-"The deputations outlined a few genuine concerns about the effect of this policy. It is about ensuring that families have adequate and appropriate support. I do think there is a need for welfare reform, but this is not sensible reform. It is an attack on the poorest by a Chancellor who wants to make a political point. I think that is disgraceful."

Councillor Richard Lewis:-" This is reformed at the same time as giving millionaires tax cuts, and there is a funeral for a Prime Minister costing millions in London. This is philosophy first and financial prudence second."

The 'no eviction' policy has been adopted elsewhere in Scotland including Dundee, Clackmannanshire and West Dunbartonshire.

In East Lothian however the situation is quite different. Labour and Tory councillors in East Lothian have combined to vote down an SNP motion that would have guaranteed no evictions because of the bedroom tax.

SNP Group Leader, Councillor Stuart Currie, said:-"It is frankly a disgrace that both Labour and the Tories have become as one on the issue of the bedroom tax. Their council deputy leader even told the meeting that he supported the welfare changes and that Iain Duncan Smith had been welcomed to East Lothian recently. Today they could have voted for a motion

which not only would guarantee no evictions but also agreed to support campaign groups who want the Bedroom Tax scrapped.

“Today was a sad day for East Lothian but also a sad day for the Labour Party in this East Lothian. It would seem that they are so reliant on the support of the Tories on the council that they will not raise a finger to support a motion that would have given support to the many people affected who we represent. Today Labour let down the people.”

Abseil for NSPCC!



NSPCC Scotland is challenging people across Edinburgh and the Lothians to test their nerve next month with a charity abseil from the iconic Forth Rail Bridge.

The 165 ft abseil will take place on Sunday May 19, and gives participants the unique challenge of descending from the famous bridge onto the beach below. A team of highly skilled instructors will be on hand at all times to ensure the experience is as safe and enjoyable as possible.

Last year a team of twelve from the First Scotrail Training Academy in Glasgow took up the challenge, together raising over £2,500 for NSPCC Scotland.

First Scotrail's Jamie Proudfoot said:- *"I was so proud of everyone in our team for the enthusiasm and bravery they demonstrated. The abseil itself was such an incredible thrill. I was terrified when it came to taking my first step off the bridge, but by the time my feet were back on the ground I was ready to do it all over again! The staff on-hand throughout the day were fantastic, and really made us feel at ease."*

Nadia Whitmore, NSPCC Scotland community fundraising manager, said:-*"This is set to be an adrenaline-fuelled event for all those who are up for the challenge. We also hope it will raise much-needed funds to help support our services in Scotland, which bring help, advice and treatment to families of children at risk or to children who have been abused."*

To take part, you are asked to pay £20 and raise a minimum sponsorship of £150. This event is open to anyone aged 16 and over, though parental consent will be required for anyone under-18 who wishes to take part. No previous experience is necessary.

To sign up for the abseil challenge visit <http://bit.ly/UtpqDL>, email scotlandevents@nspcc.org.uk or phone 0844 892 0212.

You can make a £4 donation to support the NSPCC's work in Scotland by texting CARE to 70744.

Edinburgh music school in line for award

Technophonia by Oliver Searle shortlisted for Royal Philharmonic Society Award

The City of Edinburgh Music School in conjunction with Drake Music Scotland has been shortlisted for a Royal Philharmonic Society Award for their performance at the Cultural Olympics in London, in the Learning and Participation category.

The Royal Philharmonic Society Music Awards are the highest recognition for live classical music-making in the United Kingdom. These independent awards were set up in 1989 to celebrate the outstanding musical achievements of both young and established, British and international, musicians. In 2003, BBC Radio 3 became the RPS media partners, devoting a full-length programme to the RPS Music Awards.

The RPS Music Awards are governed by the Society's guiding principles of **Excellence**, **Creativity** and **Understanding**. Nominations are invited annually from leading members of the profession and organisations throughout the country. Each Award is decided by an eminent, independent jury. The list of winners since 1989 reads as a roll call of the finest living musicians.

Oliver Searle, one of Scotland's most exciting composing

talents, and currently Lecturer in Creative and Contextual Studies at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, was commissioned by Drake Music Scotland to write **Technophonia** to explore the creative potential of the innovative technology they use to make music accessible to participants with severely restricted movement. These specialised instruments enabled the disabled musicians to perform alongside [The City of Edinburgh Music School](#) students on more conventional strings, piano and rock instruments.

The three official shortlisted nominations in each award category were announced on 11 April 2013 and the final deliberations of the juries are revealed in May at a dinner at the Dorchester Hotel, London.